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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. Foxx).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
June 12, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable VIRGINIA Foxx to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Dr. Ronnie Floyd, Cross Church, Springdale, Arkansas, offered the following prayer:

Our God, as Your prophet Daniel spoke to the king in his day with humility and honor as recorded in the Book of Daniel 4:37: "The God of Heaven has given you sovereignty, power, strength, and glory."

Lord, as these gifted men and women serve the people of the United States, may they know You have them here by divine appointment, giving to them the influence, strength, and recognition they receive.

As they make decisions that influence the entire world, I pray that You will fill them with supernatural insight, compassionate sensitivity, convictional kindness, and abounding wisdom.

The needs are many, and the tasks are overwhelming. They need You, and they need each other, in order to provide hope for the American people and the entire world. So use them today to change the world for Your glory and for Your Name, I pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BARROW) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BARROW of Georgia led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND DR. RONNIE FLOYD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Speaker, it is a personal honor this morning to welcome to the House Chamber the Reverend Dr. Ronnie Floyd, elected this week president of the Southern Baptist Convention in Baltimore.

Dr. Floyd is the senior pastor of Cross Church in northwest Arkansas, a multicampus ministry in one of America's fastest growing regions. His commitment to evangelism, discipleship, and the advancement of the Gospel to America and the world is remarkable.

He has authored a number of books, founded and hosts a businessperson's luncheon called The Summit, and has been a strategic leader in the Southern Baptist Convention for decades.

His lovely wife, Jeana, joins us in the gallery today, as does his son, Nick, himself an associate pastor at Cross Church, and his beautiful wife, Mere-

dith. His other son, Josh, is a championship football coach who just took the head coaching position with Hewitt-Trussville High School in Birmingham, Alabama.

He is a dynamic leader, a dynamic visionary, and minister. I am proud to call him president of the Southern Baptist Convention. But more than anything, Madam Speaker, I am proud to call him my pastor and friend.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

NATIONAL DAIRY MONTH

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize June as National Dairy Month. As a means to promote increased milk sales and consumption, the dairy industry began National Milk Month in 1937.

Over the years, National Milk Month evolved into National Dairy Month in order to recognize the importance of all American-made milk and dairy products. The dairy industry has had great success with just promotions—particularly with the "Got Milk?" campaign over the years.

With over 8,300 dairy farms throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, dairy production remains the single-largest sector of Pennsylvania's agriculture industry—the number one industry in Pennsylvania. This makes Pennsylvania fourth in dairy production nationally.

The 2014 farm bill makes numerous positive changes to the former dairy

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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programs. The new law repealed a number of outdated programs and replaced them with a free-market margin insurance program. Now, I was proud to support this new farm bill and the reforms that the law legislates.

Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to support our Nation's dairy industry and celebrate June as National Dairy Month.

GUN VIOLENCE

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, in the past 3 weeks, our Nation experienced three shootings in Isla Vista, California; Las Vegas, Nevada; and Troutdale, Oregon, for which we remembered the victims with a moment of silence. These shootings that resulted in 14 senseless deaths received national media coverage and sparked a national discussion on the need for better mental health policy. Mental health is a factor, but only one factor, in the gun violence epidemic.

In the same 3 weeks, 175 people were shot on the streets of Chicago, with a number of deaths. None of these shootings made national headlines, sparked a national debate, or received a congressional moment of silence. As a Nation, we have become unfazed by urban violence.

But I am not asking for more silence. We have been silent enough. We need action. I have introduced three bills that promote commonsense gun reform and that don't infringe on Second Amendment rights. These bills would highlight the public health risk associated with gun violence, help the Consumer Product Safety Commission set gun safety standards, and prohibit high-risk individuals from possessing guns.

I urge my colleagues to be a voice for American safety. Gun violence is more than mental, and Americans can no longer afford our silence. Lastly, I want to know just who and how many more must die or be shot before we take action?

CELEBRATING FATHER'S DAY

(Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, over a century ago, a Spokane woman named Sonora Smart Dodd thought up a way to honor her dad, a Civil War veteran who raised her and her five siblings after their mother passed away. Little did Sonora know that her thoughtful idea would one day become a national holiday honoring fathers from across the country.

A source of pride for Spokane and for all of eastern Washington, Sonora's vision for celebrating her dad—and all dads—will continue this Sunday as we take time to celebrate Father's Day.

As families in eastern Washington and all across our Nation recognize the role fathers play in our lives, I celebrate the impact my own dad has had in shaping who I am today. I celebrate him and all dads for their sacrifices, their guidance, and their support.

Our sons and daughters learn so much from their parents, and it is fitting that we honor all dads who have devoted time to be with their children.

Parenthood comes with its own unique set of challenges. My husband and I know this firsthand. But fathers play an essential role in making our families and our communities strong.

Today, I honor Sonora Smart Dodd for her vision, and I honor fathers from eastern Washington. From that first Father's Day in Spokane back in 1910 to the 104th one this Sunday, let's celebrate fathers.

NATIONAL MEN'S HEALTH WEEK

(Mr. BARROW of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW of Georgia. Madam Speaker, this is National Men's Health Week. Each year, for the last 20 years, we have used the week before Father's Day to encourage men of all ages to play an active role in living healthier lifestyles.

The important thing for men to remember, not just this week, but every day, is that many of the illnesses that affect us can be prevented or successfully treated. I am living proof of that. Thanks to early detection, I was able to beat prostate cancer, which used to be one of the worst diagnoses a guy could get.

This week, the members of the Congressional Men's Health Caucus are encouraging men, boys, and their families to develop positive habits, take preventive measures to combat illness, and do your best to lead healthy lifestyles.

I know all too well the importance of early prevention and early detection, and how they can mean the difference between life or death. As a leader of the Prostate Cancer Task Force, I encourage men of all ages to do the smart thing: know your number, know your condition, and stay healthy.

T-HUD

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Madam Speaker, this week, the Republican-controlled House of Representatives approved their version of the fiscal year 2015 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. Instead of investing in America's future, this legislation slashes investments in our Nation's transportation and housing infrastructure.

Funding for Amtrak is cut by \$200 million. Funding for the Public Housing Capital Fund is cut below sequester

levels, and funding for HOME investment partnership is cut to its lowest level in history.

Sadly, it gets worse. The bill practically eliminates the TIGER grant program that funds innovative highway, port, and rail projects.

At a time when America's infrastructure is crumbling, why on Earth would Congress slash funding for critical infrastructure investments that support jobs?

To compete in the 21st century economy, we must bet on America's future and dedicate resources to infrastructure projects that support jobs in the construction sector, grow our economy, and rebuild America. Our competitors are investing in infrastructure. It is time we do, too.

JOLIET PUBLIC LIBRARY STAR WARS DAY

(Mr. FOSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, as a scientist, it is not often that I come to the floor to speak out on works of science fiction, but I rise today to recognize the Fifth Annual Star Wars Day, hosted by the Joliet Public Library on Saturday, June 7, 2014.

The event not only brings the community together into the historic and welcoming streets of downtown Joliet, but also promotes literacy, science, technology, engineering, and math in a fun and exciting atmosphere that captivates young minds.

Thanks to the library's Star Wars Day, no Jedi mind tricks are needed to get children to read over the summer. In its 5 years, Star Wars Day has grown to over 7,000 attendees, thanks to the hard work of many people.

And as the Star Wars parade marched proudly down Ottawa Street, with Imperial Storm Troopers, Jedi Knights, and Ewoks in full costume, I would like to especially recognize the Sand People who, of course, march single file to hide their numbers.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the Joliet Public Library for their efforts to promote library services, literacy, and STEM education with their Fifth Annual Star Wars Day.

DEFENDING SERGEANT BOWE BERGDAHL

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I was a Navy psychiatrist during the Vietnam war. I treated men who believed they were doing the right thing, but who, having witnessed the obscenity of war, came home shaken, brutalized, and lost. These men were demonized for their experience. Today, we are making the same mistake with Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl.